



H.R. 3702 – Montana Cemetery Act of 2008

FLOOR SITUATION

H.R. 3702 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Dennis Rehberg (R-MT) on September 27, 2007. The bill was reported by unanimous consent by the House Committee on Natural Resources on June 11, 2008.

H.R. 3702 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on June 17, 2008.

SUMMARY

H.R. 3702 directs the Secretary of Agriculture to convey to Jefferson County, Montana, 9.7 acres of National Forest System land known as the Elkhorn Cemetery to be used as a County cemetery. The land must be conveyed to Jefferson County within 180 days of enactment of the Act. H.R. 3702 requires that the cemetery be managed by the County with consideration for the historic and cultural values of the cemetery, as agreed to by the Secretary and Jefferson County.

BACKGROUND

Elkhorn Cemetery is located in southwestern Montana, in the mountains east of Boulder, Montana. Elkhorn was a mining town during the late nineteenth century. The small cemetery was the town cemetery since the 1880s, and includes a number of stones marking the graves of those died during a diphtheria epidemic in the late 1880s. Currently, the cemetery is cared for by the Elkhorn Landowner's Protective Association. Elkhorn Cemetery became National Forest land in 1908 by proclamation of President Theodore Roosevelt.

[U.S. Forest Service](#)

COST

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimates that enacting H.R. 3702 "would have no significant impact on the federal budget." [Full CBO Cost Estimate](#)

STAFF CONTACT

For questions or further information contact Adam Hepburn at (202) 226-2302.